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to the opening; a handle mounted on the pressure plate, whereby an operator may manipulate the applicator for applying the roller to a surface to be painted, and for exerting pressure on the plate for contracting the compartment and forcing paint through the opening and onto the roller; spring means yieldingly urging the pressure plate to its normal expanded position as soon as pressure on the handle is released, whereby the plate will create a vacuum within the expanded compartment for drawing paint from the opening and preventing any dripping; a hinged lip mounted adjacent to the outlet opening for determining the amount of paint delivered to the roller; and adjustable spring means for swinging the lip toward the roller; the pressure on the handle and the pressure of said spring means on the lip determining the thickness of the layer of paint applied to the roller.

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